

MEMORANDUM

October 26, 2004

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Chris Carlson, Senior Fisheries Biologist

SUBJECT: Vernita Bar Redd Survey, October 24, 2004

Discussion: On Sunday, October 24, 2004 the third official Vernita Bar ground redd count was conducted to determine the Initiation of Spawning in the 36 kcfs – 50 kcfs zone and above the 50 kcfs zone at Vernita Bar. The monitoring team representatives consisted of Paul Hoffarth (WDFW) and Chris Carlson (GCPUD). Flows from Priest Rapids Dam at Vernita Bar were about 38 kcfs. Results of this survey are provided in the table below.

<u>Transect</u>	----- Redd Count by Flow Level (kcfs) -----						Total Number Of Redds
	<u>(36 – 50)</u>	<u>(50 – 55)</u>	<u>(55 – 60)</u>	<u>(60 – 65)</u>	<u>(65 – 70)</u>	<u>(Above 70)</u>	
Above A	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
A – AB	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
AB – B	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Below B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	6	0	0	0	0	0	6

Based on the above survey count and the Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Protection Program Agreement, the Initiation of Spawning has been set to be on October 20 for the 36 – 50 kcfs elevation zone (the Wednesday before the weekend on which the Monitoring Team identifies five or more redds within the zone). Initiation of Spawning has not been established for the zone above the 50 kcfs elevation.

Last year, on October 26 there were two redds observed in the 36-50 kcfs zone, three redds within 50-55 kcfs, two redds between 55-60 kcfs, one redd between 60-65 kcfs and none above 65 kcfs elevation.

The next redd count will occur on October 31, 2004 and require a USGS gauging station flow of 50 kcfs.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

(VBReddCountM.doc)

c: Linda Jones
Jeff Atkinson
Scott Bettin
Steve Brown
Scott Carlon
Dennis Dauble
Mike Erho
Gary Garnant
Paul Hoffarth
Lance Elias
Chuck Goligoski
Shane Bickford
Gary Donabauer

Steve Hays
Leon Hoepner
Rick Klinge
John Muir
Rod Noteboom
Greg Lange
Russ George
Tom Lorz
Bill Berry
Geoffrey McMichael
Robert Mueller
Paul Wagner
Bill Tweit

Bob Heinith
Cliff Sears
Lon Topaz
Rudd Turner
Dispatch
F & W Team
PRD Operators
Relicensing Library
WAN Operators
Kelly Harlan
Shane Scott
Greg Patton